

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus for a vehicle including a passenger compartment, the vehicle air conditioning apparatus comprising:

a plurality of passenger seats;

at least one air conditioning unit for controlling temperature of air blown into the passenger compartment; and

a plurality of discharging openings, through which air is discharged ~~[[into]]~~ outside of the passenger compartment of the vehicle, wherein an exit of each discharging opening on the side of the passenger compartment is disposed near the corresponding one of the passenger seats.

2. (original) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of the discharging openings is installed in a passenger door near the corresponding passenger seat.

3. (currently amended) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of the discharging ~~outlets~~ openings is disposed near a hip position of a passenger sitting on the corresponding passenger seat.

4. (currently amended) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising an air blower for discharging air from the discharging outlets openings.

5. (currently amended) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a non-return valve for preventing outside air from drawing into the passenger compartment through the discharging outlets openings.

6. (currently amended) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the at least one air conditioning units ~~are~~ unit comprises a front air conditioning unit, which is disposed at a front part of the vehicle and mainly controls temperature of air blown into a front part of the passenger compartment, and a rear air conditioning unit, which is disposed at a rear part of the vehicle and mainly controls temperature of air blown into a rear part of the passenger compartment;

the front air conditioning unit ~~[[1]]~~ has a diffusion air outlet for discharging air, the diffusion air outlet being disposed at least in a whole upper surface of a front instrument panel;

the rear air conditioning unit has a roof air outlet for discharging air, the roof air outlet being disposed at least at a rear roof; and

each discharging ~~air outlet~~ opening is disposed inside a passenger door so as to correspond to a hip position of a passenger sitting on the corresponding seat.

7. (currently amended) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the discharging ~~outlets~~openings are communicated with the passenger compartment through micro air vent holes formed on a surface of ~~[[the]]~~a passenger door ~~that is the passenger compartment side.~~

8. (currently amended) A vehicle air conditioning apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of air blowers respectively provided for the discharging ~~outlets~~openings for discharging air from the discharging ~~outlets~~openings.